

LIBRARY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ADLINGTON.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health


FOR THE

Urban District of Adlington.

LANCASHIRE.

For the Year ended 31st December, 1937.

ADLINGTON :
G. E. SCHOFIELD,
PRINTER



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28797085>

ADLINGTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

THE WILLOWS,"

ADLINGTON, LANCOS.,

May 4th, 1938.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE ADLINGTON URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN.

I have the honour to present to you my 26th Annual Report on the health of the Urban District of Adlington for the year ending December 31st, 1937.

The area of the Urban District is unaltered, viz.:—1062 acres, the total number of inhabited houses has risen to 1146, an increase of 10 over that of the year 1936; and the population estimated to the middle of the year is 4032, compared with the 4087 of 1936.

The rateable value at £15,946 is slightly less than that of 1936, and the value of a penny rate is £60 compared with £61 in 1936.

Social conditions remain unchanged and unemployment though slightly less than that of 1936, is still prevalent, due to continued depression in the cotton industry, and the still continuing migration of young adult workers. The advent of the new Government Ordnance Works now being built in a near by area will, I hope, influence this migration for the better.

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

There were 51 births registered during the year, 29 males and 22 females, giving a birth rate of 12·6 per 1000 of the estimated resident population. Included in these figures are 2 illegitimate births, 1 male and 1 female. Four still births were registered, which gives a rate of 72 per 1000 births.

DEATHS

There were 44 deaths registered, (23 males and 21 females.) The death rate being 10·9 per 1000 of the registered population, the adjusted death rate equals 12·0 per 100.

One death was registered from Puerperal Sepsis, which gives a death rate per 1000 births of 18·18.

The death rate of Infants under one year of

age per 1000 live births 19

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 5

Population 4032

	Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Population				Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live birth
	Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death-rate from Cancer	per 1,000 Live Births	per 1,000 Total (Live and Still Births)	
Mean of 5 years 1932—36	13·2	11·5	0·52	1·15	11·90	10·93	52
Year—							
1936	...	13·6	9·7	0·73	1·22	—	54
1937	...	12·6	†10·9	0·24	1·24	19·60	18·18
Increase or decrease in 1937 on—							
5 years' aver 1932—36	—0·6	—0·6	—0·28	+0·09	+7·70	+7·25	—33
Previous year ...	—1·0	+1·2	—0·49	+0·02	+19·60	+18·18	+35
† 1937 adjusted death-rate (comparability factor 1·11)=12·0 per 1000.							

The causes of death were attributed to—

	Males.	Females.
Influenza	1	3
Tuberculosis Resp. Sys.	0	1
Tuberculosis (other forms)...	1	0
Cancer	1	4
Diabetes	1	0
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	3	2
Heart Disease	4	4
Other Circulatory Diseases...	1	0
Bronchitis	3	0
Pneumonia	1	1
Ac. and Chr. Nephritis	2	3
Puerperal Sepsis	0	1
Premature Births...	0	1
Suicide...	1	0
Other Violence	3	0
Other defined Disease	1	1
	23	21

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

The health services which include the provision of motor ambulances for the conveyance of sick persons to and from the local hospitals are apparently efficient and remain unaltered from those of 1936.

No fresh legislation or special orders have been introduced in 1937

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER. The water supply of the district, which is received from Blackrod Urban District Council, and the Manchester Corporation, is satisfactory both in quantity and quality, and apparently is free from any contamination; 27,223 000 gallons, or 18·24 gallon per head were consumed, and no complaints of a serious nature were received.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

During the year the sewer on Bolton Road was extended to the boundary, and six houses in the area was connected thereto. The sanitary accommodation to these houses consisted of two pail closets and one privy midden, these have been demolished; separate closets on the water carriage system have been provided for each house.

Two additional water closets were erected in another part of the district where the accommodation was joint; in another area two privies were constructed to provide separate accommodation, no sewer being available.

The accommodation is now :—

Water Closets	...	...	1117
Waste Water Closets...	...	...	11
Pail Closets	...	...	2
Privy Middens	...	...	13

There are 1163 moveable receptacles provided for the accommodation of house refuse, these are emptied regularly each week, and their contents removed by covered dust cart to an isolated tip.

SANITARY INSPECTION.

Thirty three sanitary inspections (including 22 housing) were made during the year, 194 defects were discovered and remedied, after the service of 33 informal notices.

Twelve informal and verbal notices were served under the Public Health Act of 1875, for the abatement of nuisances with satisfactory results.

SMOKE ABATEMENT. There are four factory and works chimneys in the district, no action has been deemed necessary regarding smoke nuisance, and a twelve minutes time limit is still in force.

TRADE PREMISES. Thirteen Factories and twenty three workshops including 11 bakehouses are on the register. Seventy one visits were paid to these, and all were found to be in a clean and satisfactory condition, and with adequate sanitary accommodation.

Under the Shops Acts of 1934 one hundred and eighteen inspections were made on behalf of the County Council in all cases the premises were found to be clean with adequate sanitary accommodation and efficient ventilation.

SCHOOLS. I had occasion during the year to draw your attention to what appeared to me to be the inadequate ventilation of the Adlington National School, and also the flushing arrangements of the sanitary conveniences. These matters were brought to the notice of the Managers.

HOUSING.

HOUSING ACT 1936. OVERCROWDING. Further reductions have been made in houses overcrowded, and the number at the end of the year was reduced to three.

HOUSING CONDITIONS. Generally speaking houses are of the working class type, consisting of parlour, living room scullery, and two or three bedrooms, and the supply of this class can be considered good, but there would still appear to be some shortage of small houses that could be reuted at about seven or eight shillings per week

No further schemes are at present desired or contemplated, and no unhealthy areas are left.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Number of New Houses erected during the year.

(a)	Total; including no's given separately under (b)	10
1.	By the Local Authority	2
2.	By other Local Authorities	0
3.	By other bodies or persons	8

(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts.

1. By the Local Authority included under a, 1, (above) 2
2. By other bodies or persons included under a, 3, „, 0

I INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR

- 1 (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 21
- (b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose 76
- 2 (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under subhead 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 16
- (b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose 64
3. Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 16
- 4 Number of houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceeding subhead) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 5

II REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES

- Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 21

III ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR

(A) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10 and 16 OF THE HOUSING ACT 1936

- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 21
- (2) Number of dwelling houses rendered fit after service of formal notices :
 - (a) By Owners 21
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners 0

(B) PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

- 1 Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied... .. 12
2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices

(a)	By Owner	...	...	...	12
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners				0
(C) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11 AND 13 OF THE HOUSING ACT 1936.					
1.	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which demolition orders were made	...	...	...	0
2.	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	...	...	...	1
(D) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT 1936.					
1.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	...	...	...	0
2.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	0
IV. HOUSING ACT 1936. PART 4. OVERCROWDING.					
(a)	1.	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	...	3
	2.	Number of families dwelling therein	...	...	3
	3.	Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...	24
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	0
(c)	1.	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	10
	2.	Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...	80.5

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

As in previous years, all the premises where meat, milk, and other food stuffs are supplied, have been regularly visited and inspected, and in all cases no cause for complaint has been found

There are two slaughter houses, 12 farms, with 12 cowkeepers and 21 milk purveyors. The approximate number of cows in the district is about 120.

Thirty three inspections were made under the Milk and Dairies Order 1926, and the general cleanliness of the cattle dairies and premises was found to be satisfactory.

At the County Council's request, on four different occasions, samples of milk supplied to the St Paul's C.E. School were taken and transmitted for a Tuberculin Test. All the samples were found to be negative.

There are 11 Bakehouses which are kept in a satisfactory condition.

No action has been taken or required under the Food and Drugs Act, regarding tinned meats or shell fish

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 36 cases of Infectious Disease, and 5 cases of Tuberculosis were reported. Twenty seven of these were due to Scarlet Fever, which prevailed mostly in the third and fourth quarters of the year. Nine cases of Pneumonia were reported mostly in the first quarter of the year, and 1 case of Puerperal Pyrexia.

Twenty nine houses have been disinfected where infectious diseases have occurred, and six books, borrowed from the local branch of the County Library were sent away for a similar purpose.

The Adlington C E Schools, (Mixed and Infants) were twice sprayed during the year, and one of the cotton mills was disinfected throughout, including the weaver's shuttles.

The method of disinfection has been by Formalin Spray, and any infected clothing by disinfecting lotions.

Seven specimens, consisting of four sputa, and three swabs were sent to the Pathological Laboratory at Wigan for examination

Five cases of Tuberculosis, 3 respiratory and 2 non-respiratory, were reported.

Two deaths from Tuberculosis have been registered, one respiratory and one non-respiratory. The premises where deaths have taken place are always disinfected.

Three cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were reported, and these were all treated at home satisfactorily, with no impairment of vision.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

The action taken by the Local Authority under Section 176 of the Public Health Act 1936 has been :—to draw the attention of Medical Practitioners to facilities for aid, that can be obtained through local workshop collections for Hospital treatment, and arrangements made for notification of blindness

I append herewith statistical tables of the Infectious Diseases for 1937.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1937.

	Total at all ages	Under 1 year	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over	Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital	Total deaths
	<i>a</i>													<i>c</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>d</i>
Scarlet Fever	26			1	2	1	16	6						26		
Pneumonia													1			
Acute Primary ..	1								4			2	2			
Acute Influenzal ..	8									1						
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	1															
	36	0		1	2	1	16	6	4	1	2	3		26		

TUBERCULOSIS.
New Cases and Mortality during 1937

Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
YEARS	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
25	2	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
45	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..
Totals	2	1	2	0	0	1	1	0
	3		2		1		1	

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Notified	Treated		Vision Unimpaired.
	At Home	In Hospital	
3	3	0	3

There has been no notable improvement in 1937, and the Council still continue to postpone the paving of side streets and back passages, which constitutes the chief sanitary requirement in the District.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WALTER C. RIGBY.

